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DOCKET NO.: 8229-013-27

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Re: Serial No.: 09/975,257
Applicant(s): SUNDAR NARAYANAN, ET AL.
Filing Date: OCTOBER 12, 2001
For: A NOVEL SELF MONITORING PROCESS FOR ULTRA THIN FILM
OXIDATION
Group Art Unit: 2813
Examiner: HOGANS, D.

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SIR:

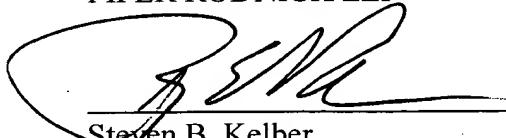
Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Our check in the amount of \$ -0- is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary extension of time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to Deposit Account No. 50-1442. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a request is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

PIPER RUDNICK LLP



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: SUNDAR NARAYANAN, ET AL. ART UNIT: 2813

SERIAL NO.: 09/975,257

EXAMINER: HOGANS, D.

FILING DATE: OCTOBER 12, 2001

FOR: A NOVEL SELF MONITORING PROCESS FOR ULTRA THIN GATE
OXIDATION

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Restriction Requirement dated December 17, 2002, Applicants elect, albeit with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-19 for further prosecution at this time.

REMARKS

The Examiner has required restriction in the above-identified application as follows:

Group I: Claims 1-19, drawn to a method of determining the nitrogen content of a nitrided gate oxide layer, classified in class 438, subclass 14; and

Group II: Claims 20-22, drawn to a monitoring system for statistical process control, classified in class 118, subclass 665.

For the purpose of examination of the present application, Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-19 for further prosecution at this time.

A first basis for Applicants' traversal is that there is no undue burden on the Examiner. The system defined by Claims 20-22 is specifically adapted to accomplish the